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China Requirements file

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7 January 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director (Research) *AB*

SUBJECT: Request for Additional Coverage
of North Vietnam and South China

REFERENCE: Action Memorandum No. A-147,
4 January 1963

1. This paper contains a recommendation in paragraph 6.

2. At its meeting on 4 January, the Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance reviewed the need for Far Eastern U-2 reconnaissance, account being taken of the report that a repeat of the Szechwan Basin has been approved and that approvals still exist for the Sino-Indian border.

3. COMOR agreed to consider at its meeting on 10 January the need for coverage of the south portion of North Vietnam (which has not been covered [REDACTED] and coverage of any targets not covered in North Vietnam by Mission 3206 of [REDACTED]. COMOR will at that time also consider the need for further or repeat coverage of South China in the light of both the North Vietnam Mission 3206 (which included a part of South China) and the South China mission [REDACTED]. COMOR was not prepared on Friday, 4 January, to discuss this inasmuch as the preliminary reports on these missions are by no means complete and further time is required to assess what is the full extent of the coverage. However, the members agreed that none of the information from the preliminary reports was of such an ominous character as to warrant immediate return to these areas in advance of a more careful examination of the results.

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4. COMOR also on 10 January will consider a justification for recoverage of the missile-test range and [REDACTED]

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Barring new developments or ominous collateral, COMOR does not consider it necessary at this time to recover North China. It is COMOR's preliminary view that the North Korean mission was so complete that at the moment a return mission could not be justified. However, this will be carefully reviewed upon completion of the mission coverage index.

5. The CIA representative on COMOR joined in the foregoing conclusions.

6. In the light of the foregoing action of COMOR, it is recommended that permission for additional coverage of North Vietnam and South China not be requested of the Special Group at the meeting of 10 January. A report on the conclusions of COMOR at its meeting of 10 January will be submitted promptly thereafter.

[REDACTED]
James Q. Reber
Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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cc: DDCI
DDR
DDI
ER

The recommendation contained in paragraph 6 is approved:

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[REDACTED]
Director of Central Intelligence

Date 22 January 1963

DCI has seen and approved.

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